

Parents invited to help shape a community mural in Mitton Village

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1 / 2 A community mural project is calling on parents and caregivers in Sarnia to share their stories of pregnancy, birth, and raising children - with the finished work destined for the exterior wall of the Radiant Community Centre on Mitton St. S. | Radiant Community Centre

A year-long arts project rooted in Sarnia-Lambton's Mitton Village is seeking parents and caregivers to help shape a community mural about the experiences of birth and parenting.

The mural will be painted on the exterior wall of the Radiant Community Centre at 109 Mitton St. S. and is being created by local artist Lauren Davidson. It is expected to be completed later this year, with a public unveiling planned for spring 2027.

The project is coordinated by local doula Javi Aviles-Saez, who also leads the Radiant Community Centre, in partnership with nuSarnia. It received initial funding through Lambton County's Creative County Grant.

Parents and caregivers will be invited to a series of two-hour community engagement sessions this summer, where they can share their experiences of pregnancy, birth, and raising children. Those stories will inform Davidson's final mural design.

"If you participate in raising a child, you're invited, whatever that experience has looked like for you," says Aviles-Saez.

The first session is scheduled for Sunday, June 28 at the Radiant Community Centre. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Free on-site childcare and transit tickets will be available to participants who need them.

"We want to reduce barriers to attendance. If childcare or transportation support would make it easier for you to participate, you can request it through the interest form," says Aviles-Saez.

Davidson's recent work has explored related themes. Her 2025 immersive installation Matrescence featured unedited birth stories from Lambton County women, and her linocut series First Home depicted the womb as a place of protection and origin. She recently opened Bright Little Studio, a backyard art studio on Bright St. offering one-on-one and small-group classes for children.

"As both an artist and a parent, this project feels deeply meaningful to me," says Davidson. "I'm eager to listen to and learn from the families who participate in these sessions and create a mural that reflects their experiences." Her intention is "to create a work that honours the voices of parents and caregivers while adding a meaningful landmark to our neighbourhood — one that embodies strength, tenderness, and shared community care."

Organizers are currently seeking sponsors, community partners, volunteers, and donations to support engagement activities, accessibility, and mural production costs. Those interested can reach out by email at hello@radiantcentre.ca.

Parents, caregivers, and community members interested in participating can complete [an interest form](#) to receive invitations to upcoming sessions.

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